



LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Mike Wood, Sheriff

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Lt. Grady Jordan

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Sheriff Wood Names Stephen Hurm LCSO General Counsel

Sheriff Mike Wood is proud to announce the selection of Stephen Hurm as the General Counsel for the Leon County Sheriff's Office. Major Hurm will act as the agency's legal counsel and will head the Leon County Professional Services Division. The Professional Services Division encompasses the agency's Internal Affairs, Accreditation and Training sections, as well as, Legislative Affairs.

Steve Hurm is a Florida native, born and raised in Pinellas County on the central west coast. After high school he completed an associate of science degree in Police Administration and joined the St. Petersburg Police Department in the spring of 1974 at age 18, becoming the youngest law enforcement officer in the state for a time. In 1976, Hurm went to New York to complete his bachelor degree. He returned to Florida to attend law school at Stetson University in St. Petersburg.

After graduation, Hurm joined the Fifth Judicial Circuit State Attorney's office, where he prosecuted criminal cases at all levels from misdemeanor to first degree murder. From 1991 through mid-2000, Hurm practiced general criminal and civil litigation and appellate work throughout the Fifth Circuit as owner of a law firm.

Following a brief early retirement period in 2004, Hurm returned to his first love of law enforcement, joining the Florida Department of Law Enforcement as regional legal advisor for the Tallahassee and Pensacola Regions, the Computer Crime Center, and Capitol Police. In 2007, during his tenure at FDLE, Hurm went back to the recruit academy and was again certified as a law enforcement officer. He was named a special agent of FDLE in early 2008 and completed the Special Agent Training Academy. While at FDLE, Hurm was also named legal advisor to the Florida Accreditation Commission, where he served until 2015.

In early 2009, due to a transition at the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office, Hurm was temporarily assigned to assist interim Sheriff Ed Spooner with legal issues. During that assignment, Sheriff Spooner and Undersheriff Larry Ashley asked Hurm to join the department fulltime, which he did in June 2009. At OCSO, Hurm served as legal counsel and one of two accreditation managers, guiding the department to its first accreditation in June 2010. Following Sheriff Ashley's election in November 2010, Hurm followed his heart back to Tallahassee, where he married his sweetheart, Gwen Graham. In December 2010, Hurm was named general counsel of the Department of

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Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and a reserve trooper with the Florida Highway Patrol, where he has served until now. Under his leadership, the Office of General Counsel created the FHP Legal Advisor program and revamped the legal training component in the FHP Academy. In 2011, Hurm served as President of the Florida General Counsel Association, and currently serves as chairman of the Florida Bar Traffic Court Rules Committee.

Sheriff Wood said, "We are excited to welcome Steve to the LCSO family. Major Hurm brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience that we believe will continue to move the agency forward in the future."



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